

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 8, 2000

LB 628
LR 20

adoption of AM2570 to LR 20CA. Those in favor vote aye, those opposed nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the Select File amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Amendment is agreed to. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Mr. President, I'd move the advancement of LR 20CA to E & R for engrossing.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The question is the advancement of LR 20CA to E & R for engrossment. Those in favor say aye. Those opposed nay. The bill is advanced. Mr. Clerk, General File.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 628 introduced by Senator Brashear. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 19 of last year, at that time referred to the Government Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM2142, Legislative Journal page 496.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Brashear, you're recognized to open on LB 628.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. One of the things that you learn upon coming here sooner or later is that a legislative bill in the second half of the biennium, in the short session at this stage, is nothing at all without a priority. So before I have a glaring omission, I want to express my deep appreciation to Senator Bruning for having prioritized LB 628. Thank you. LB 628 is intended to address four problems commonly encountered by members of the public when they request access to public records. It was brought to my attention by Media of Nebraska and has the support of a number of groups interested in citizen participation in and access to government, which we hope is almost all of us. First, current law creates a right for a citizen to examine records or to make memoranda and abstracts from those records. It also permits a citizen to obtain a certified copy for a stated fee. What current law does not provide for is the right of the citizen to obtain a regular copy of a public record. LB 628 would correct